

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 59th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

WORKING GROUP INDIAN EDUCATION FOR ALL MONTANANS APPOINTED BY MADAM CHAIR EVE FRANKLIN, JOINT APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Call to Order: By **MADAM CHAIR CAROL WILLIAMS**, on January 28,
2005 at 12:10 P.M., in Room 102 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Verdell Jackson (R)
Rep. Carol C. Juneau (D)
Sen. Carol Williams (D)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Mike Burke, OBPP
Jim Standaert, Legislative Branch
Diana Williams, Committee Secretary
Transcribed by Jamie Mickelson

Please Note. These are summary minutes. Testimony and discussion are paraphrased and condensed. Tape counter notations refer to material immediately preceding.

Working Group Summary

Meeting #3: Accountability Issue
Available Materials: University Level
Planning Phase

MADAM CHAIR WILLIAMS stated the Committee had invited some of the Indian tribal legislators who hadn't participated in the last meeting to come. She commented that the Committee is going to open the meeting for public testimony.

REP. CAMPBELL, Fort Peck Indian Reservation House District 41, explained that she is the representative from that area. She commented that she has 22 years in higher education. She said that she has no experience working with a K-12 curriculum. **REP. CAMPBELL** stated that her contributions will be to listen and interject when she can.

MADAM CHAIR WILLIAMS shared that the Committee will visit about strategies within Indian Education. She commented that she was impressed with the materials and resources that are available for Indian Education.

Ellen Sweeney, Director of American Indian/Minority Achievement handed out two documents labeled, "Implementation of MCA 20-1-501 by the Schools of Education, Indian Education Summit," and "Sample Materials for the Implementation of MCA 20-1-501, Indian Education for all Montanans." The latter document, Exhibit 2, was in a three-ring binder, for storage purposes the material was divided into three separate books:

- Book 1: the materials from University of Montana-Missoula, TECH and Western.
- Book 2: the materials from University of Montana-Helena College of Technology and Montana State University-Bozeman and Billings.
- Book 3: Montana State University-Northern, Great Falls College of Technology and Salish Kootenai College.

Mrs. Sweeney explained that this is a booklet that outlines what is currently happening within the Universities that are taking the initiative to educate their students in Indian education. She stated what is interesting about this report from the Universities is that it references some of the research that teachers and students are currently doing.

[EXHIBIT\(jeh22e01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(jeh22e02\)](#)

Clarence Comes At Night, Chairman of the Heart Butte School Board, commented that one of the things that has been bothering him throughout the last year and a half is the funding for No Child Left Behind (NCLB). He explained that there was no funding

for the teachers to receive more training. He stated that more money needs to be put into teacher training for NCLB for the Indian student population.

MADAM CHAIR WILLIAMS asked what kinds of things the University system can do with money that is currently allotted to them.

Linda McCulloch, Superintendent of Public Instruction, stated that teachers from Missoula got together and put together some Indian education for the school district labeled, "Coming together: Entering the Powwow Circle." She commented that the teachers did this on their own time and own expense. She stated that individuals out there are looking to address this issue.

EXHIBIT(jeh22e03)

Everall Fox, Indian Education Specialist for OPI, gave a brief explanation of a handout labeled, "DP-60 Indian Education for all Budget Narrative."

EXHIBIT(jeh22e04)

Mr. Fox explained that with a grant, OPI was required by the Federal Government to put together a budget narrative. He explained that the numbers are divided up into personnel operating expenses and equipment. He took the larger numbers in the budget and explained how the big numbers in the budget would be spent.

REP. JUNEAU asked him to review one year of the budget with the Committee.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 0 - 10}

Mr. Fox explained that his work is still in the planning stage and he is still gathering information. He explained that he would like to bring on a few more staff members and an Indian Education Specialist. He commented that OPI will start looking for groups of teachers and members of the tribes to form a committee, so that OPI can develop model curriculum, model lesson plans, and guides for Indian Education for All.

Mr. Fox said that the biggest cost would be consulting professional services to bring people together so that they can do this work.

Mr. Fox explained that one of the first phases in developing this curriculum is to develop a framework, and most of the budget narrative relates to the process of getting people together in meeting rooms.

Mr. Fox commented that the hope of OPI is to have a program and resources ready by the fall of 2007.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 10 - 20}

Mr. Fox explained that there was a lack of resources and materials and that it is currently one of the major issues.

Mr. Fox explained that one of the largest hurdles to overcome is going to be finding out what materials are out there, what resources are available, and how they are available to the school system.

REP. JUNEAU stated that one of the areas in the budget that seems to have been missed is professional development. She commented that professional development seems to be a key component, but yet the budget doesn't have any money allotted for professional development models for teachers. She asked what the expectations are in developing a model and professional development.

Mr. Fox explained that it is going to be a large part of the job and it is being done already. He said that OPI is supposed to be implementing professional development for all. He commented that currently the money is not available, but OPI is still being asked by schools to present and give information on Indian Education.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 22 - 27}

Mrs. McCulloch stated that much of the travel costs will involve the Indian Education specialists going out and speaking in the rural areas. She explained that the first year will be spent on bringing together people who are going to be working on the model curriculum. She commented that OPI can start putting some of this money into professionally preparing teachers on the materials that have been developed. She explained that if the Committee were to look at the budget as a framework for what OPI needed to do, none of the areas would be carved in stone.

Mrs. McCulloch stated that one of the frustrations that OPI faces in putting this together is that it needs to be done in a respectful and honorable manner. She commented that not everything is going to be accomplished with this budget and some of the costs will need to be ongoing. She said that if this is funded for two years and then shut down, it is as good as not doing it at all.

REP. JUNEAU stated that the plans in the curriculum development should be to work on lessons which can be integrated with all of the nine disciplines included.

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Counter: 0 - 30}

Mrs. McCulloch explained the integration model with all other subjects.

REP. JUNEAU commented that waiting two more years to implement this program would be way too long. She stated that the money needs to be appropriated this session. **REP. JUNEAU** said that the Legislature needs to get money into the school systems in order to implement Indian Education. She commented that she strongly disagreed with taking two years to implement this curriculum into the schools.

Bud Williams, Deputy Superintendent fo OPI, explained that one of the most important concepts for Indian Education is how to deliver it to the school system. He commented that many schools do not understand the issues surrounding Indian Education. He said that it is important to possibly provide information and professional development for teachers to teach Indian Education.

Mr. Williams handed out a packet labeled, "It happens When We Get There."

EXHIBIT(jeh22e05)

MADAM CHAIR WILLIAMS stated that there is a large discrepancy between the educational grants and grants for schools. She said that she would like to see more uniformity between educational grants and grants to schools.

REP. JUNEAU commented that she does not think \$2 million from the Governor's budget is adequate to fund Indian Education. She explained that she would like to see some of the money allotted to the schools for resources.

REP. CAMPBELL suggested that OPI meet with the tribal colleges and see what resources are available to use in a university setting.

REP. BIXBY commented that this is an example of how to build partnerships between the tribal colleges the university system.
{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Counter: 0 - 14}

MADAM CHAIR WILLIAMS said that she looked through the university budget and realized that the amount they were asking for to fund Indian Education For All seemed rather small. She commented that she thinks the university system should be asking for more money.

Roger Barber, Deputy Commissioner for OCHE, explained that the budget request is modest and the funding can be adjusted when they review what resources are already available and use what they already have. He also suggested that he would like to improve the university's research model.

Mrs. McCulloch explained that OPI is utilizing the funds to accomplish what they need to do for project start-up. She commented that they still intend to do the work that the office does with professional development and going through the materials.

Mrs. McCulloch handed out some information on accountability labeled, "OPI Results of 2004 Annual Data Collection," "Five-Year Comprehensive Planning To implement Indian Education for All," and "Indian Education for All MCA 20-1-501."

[EXHIBIT\(jeh22e06\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(jeh22e07\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(jeh22e08\)](#)

MADAM CHAIR WILLIAMS thanked the Committee for participating and stated that the next meeting will be on 1/31/05 at noon.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 12:55 P.M.

SEN. CAROL WILLIAMS, Chairman

DIANA WILLIAMS, Secretary
Transcribed by Jamie Mickelson

EF/dw

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([jeh22ead0.PDF](#))